

Public Law 612

CHAPTER 437

AN ACT

June 25, 1956
[S. 3265]

To amend title II of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, to provide for filing vessel utilization and performance reports by operators of vessels in the foreign commerce of the United States.

Merchant Marine
Reports.

49 Stat. 1985,
1990.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That title II of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (46 U. S. C. 1111–1127), is amended by inserting after section 212 (46 U. S. C. 1122), a new section 212 (A) to read as follows:

“SEC. 212. (A) The operator of a vessel in waterborne foreign commerce of the United States shall file at such times and in such manner as the Secretary of Commerce may prescribe by regulations, such report, account, record, or memorandum relating to the utilization and performance of such vessel in commerce of the United States, as the Secretary may determine to be necessary or desirable in order to carry out the purposes and provisions of this Act, as amended. Such report, account, record, or memorandum shall be signed and verified in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary. An operator who does not file the report, account, record, or memorandum as required by this section and the regulations issued hereunder, shall be liable to the United States in a penalty of \$50 for each day of such violation. The amount of any penalty imposed for any violation of this section upon the operator of any vessel shall constitute a lien upon the vessel involved in the violation, and such vessel may be libeled therefor in the district court of the United States for the district in which it may be found. The Secretary of Commerce may, in his discretion, remit or mitigate any penalty imposed under this section on such terms as he may deem proper.”

Approved June 25, 1956.

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CHAPTER 438

AN ACT

June 25, 1956
[S. 3857]

To clarify section 1103 (d) of title XI (Federal Ship Mortgage Insurance) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended.

Federal Ship
Mortgage Insur-
ance.
68 Stat. 1269.
46 USC 1273.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That effective September 3, 1954, section 1103 (d) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

“(d) The faith of the United States is solemnly pledged to the payment of the interest on and 90 per centum of the unpaid balance of the principal amount of each mortgage and loan insured under this title, but in the case of special-purpose vessels certified by the Secretary of Defense to be essential to national defense, the faith of the United States is solemnly pledged to the payment of the interest on and 100 per centum of the unpaid balance of the principal amount of each mortgage and loan insured under this title if the insurance contract obligates the United States to pay the interest on and 100 per centum of the unpaid balance of the principal amount of such mortgage or loan.”

Approved June 25, 1956.